

12/12/2013

PLN courses have had a very positive impact on my professional growth and, as a result, the well being of my students. Participating and experiencing The Four Lenses and The Five Processes, which are the heart, mind and soul of The Penn Literacy Network have impacted me in so many positive ways. Each PLN instructor was outstanding and each modeled the concepts of PLN throughout the courses. As a result of their excellent teaching, I now have a deep understanding of the interrelationship between the Meaning, Language, Social and Human Lenses, through which any subject can be taught. I have been able to combine my prior learning and experience with these lenses and the result is teaching that has a much deeper and richer foundation.

My instruction, which is an amalgamation of prior and current training and coursework as well as Penn Literacy Network's Five Reading Writing Talking Processes, thrives as it responds to meet the ongoing changes in our profession.

My students, many who have significant learning and social challenges, tell me how much they enjoy coming to my room and how much they love learning because it is interesting and fun. In my opinion, The Four Lenses cannot be underestimated in terms of their positive impact on all students.

As a seasoned educator, my only wish is that I had been able to avail myself of this knowledge earlier in my career. I can attest to the significant benefit these courses would give to experienced teachers, and can only imagine the tremendous benefit to be derived by a beginning teacher.

Sincerely,

Valerie Furlong, Special Education Teacher

Cherry Hill School District, New Jersey